

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figures 13, 18, and 21.

These sheets replace the original sheets including Figures 13, 18, and 21.

Attachment: Replacement drawing sheets

Annotated drawing sheets showing the changes to the drawing.

Request for Reconsideration:

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the Examiner indicates that claims 5-7 would be allowable, if rewritten in independent format, including the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants are amending independent claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claims 2-7, and are amending claim 2 to be rewritten in independent format, including the limitations of original claims 1, 3, and 5. The Examiner indicates that amended claims 1 and 2 should be in condition for allowance. Applicants also are amending claims 3-14 and are adding new claims 14-17 to better describe the claimed invention. Moreover, Applicants are amending the specification and Figures 13, 18, and 21. No new matter is added by the foregoing amendments, and these amendments are fully supported by the specification. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the above-captioned patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Remarks:

1. Rejections

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, as allegedly being indefinite, and claims 2 and 3 stand objected to as allegedly including informalities. Applicants have amended claim 3 to remove the reference to a slide groove, and have amended claim 14 to remove the reference to a second origin detection member. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the indefiniteness rejection of claim 14 and the objection to claims 2 and 3.

Further, claims 1-4 and 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly anticipated by Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0197772 A1 to Iwatsuki et al. ("Iwatsuki"). In addition, claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly rendered obvious by Iwatsuki in view of Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0179047 A1 to Nimi; claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly rendered obvious by Iwatsuki in view of Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0109749 A1 to Matsumura; claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly rendered obvious by Iwatsuki in view of Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0180821 to Cook; and claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly rendered obvious by Iwatsuki in view of Patent No. US 5,172,138 A to Okazawa et al.

Applicants are amending independent claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claims 2-7, and are amending claim 2 to be rewritten in independent format, including the limitations of original claims 1, 3, and 5. The Examiner indicates that amended claims

1 and 2 should be in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of claims 1 and 2.

Claims 3, 4, and 8-14 depend from one of allowable, independent claims 1 and 2. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner also withdraw the rejection of claims 3, 4, and 8-14.

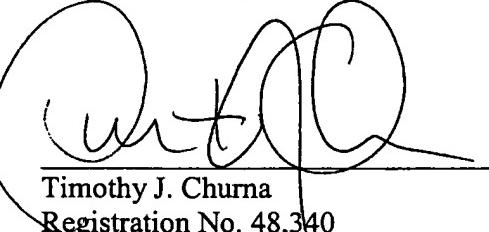
Conclusion:

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and such disposition is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that an interview with Applicants' representatives, either in person or by telephone, would expedite prosecution of this application, we would welcome such an opportunity. Applicant believes that no fees are due as a result of this Response. Nevertheless, in the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and the fees determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, please charge or credit any such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 02-0375.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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Dated: June 24, 2008

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Enclosures

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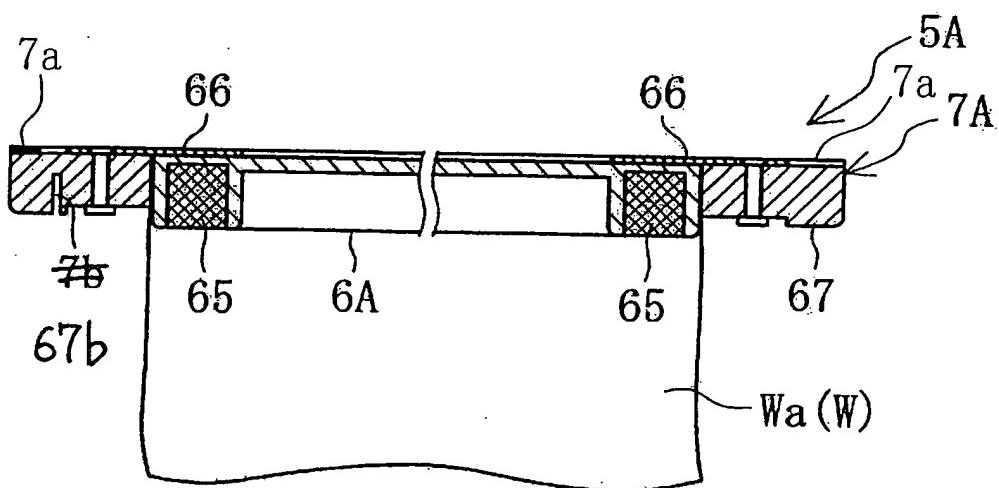


FIG. 13

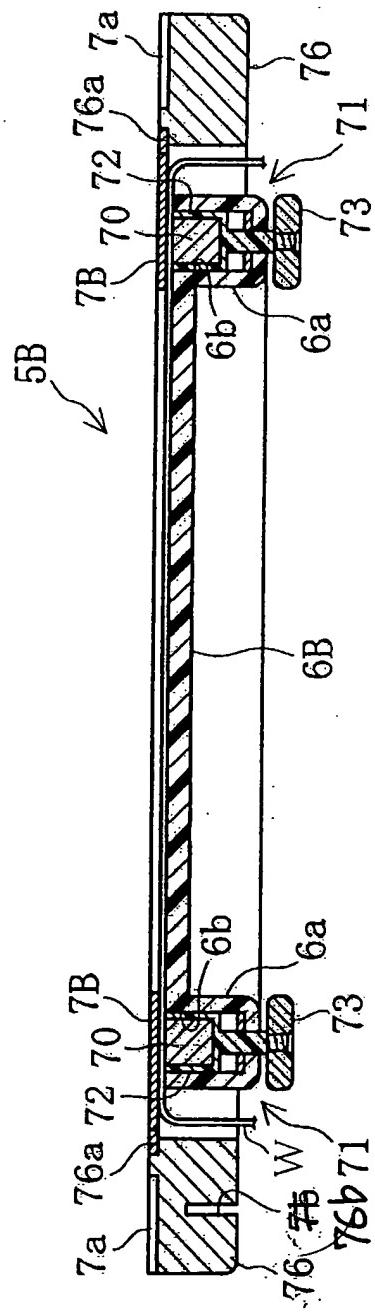


FIG. 18

